

October 2008

Lang & Reed 2004 Cabernet Franc – 'Premier Etage' – Napa Valley

"The relatively tight drinking quality of the '04 is precisely the reason why Skupny holds back his reserves a heck of a lot longer than even Cabernet Sauvignon producers. While less effusive than in the '03, the nose is flowery and perfumed (raspberry and violet); medium-full to full on the palate, showing a densely packed, piquant berry profile fused with toasted oak, finishing with briary twists of tobacco and tannin. Excellent now, but undoubtedly finer drinking in another year."

Randy Caparoso, *Randy Caparoso's Culinary Wine & Food Adventures*